





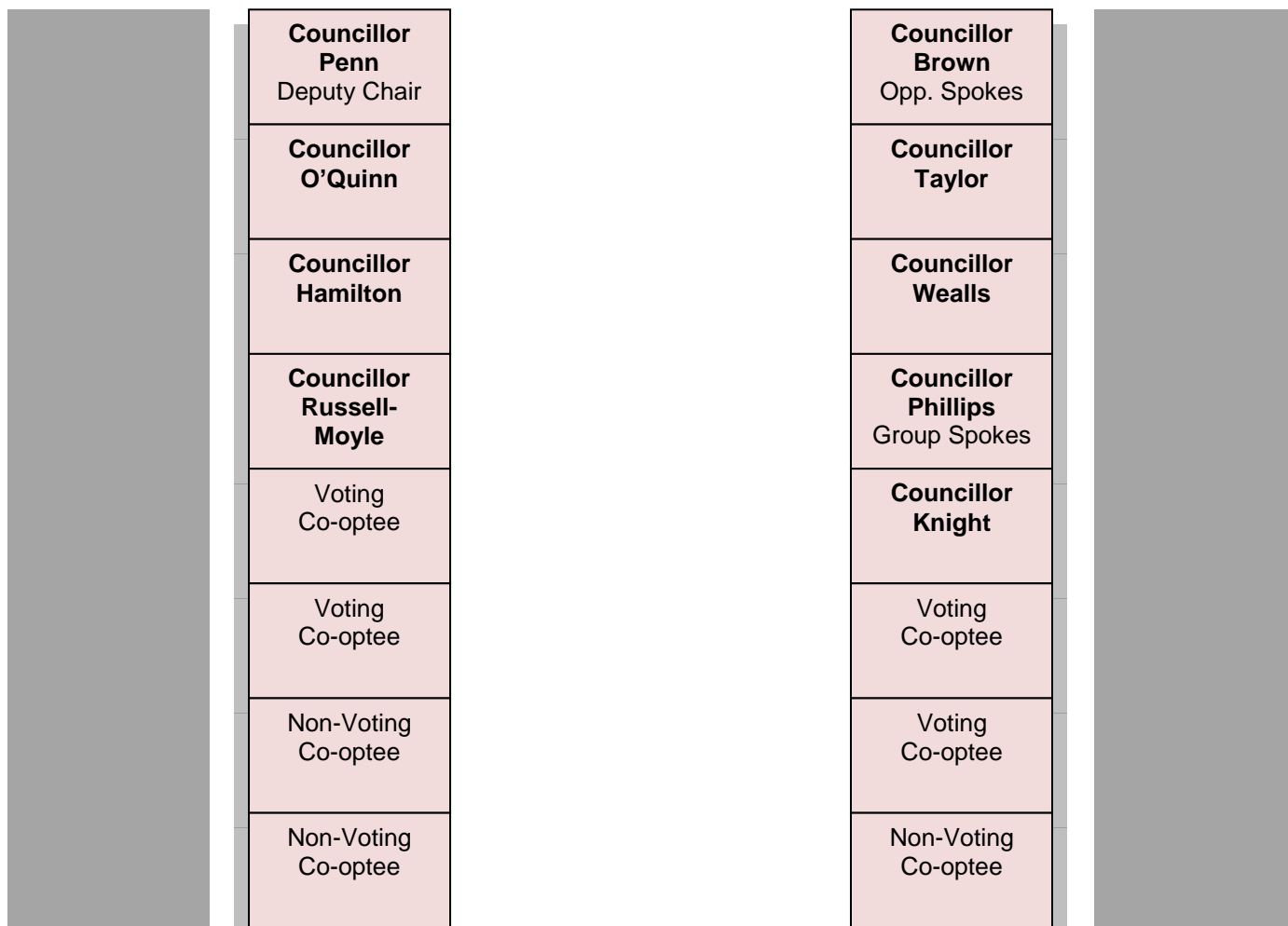
**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Children, Young People & Skills Committee

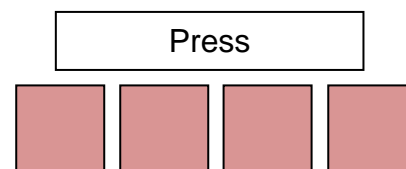
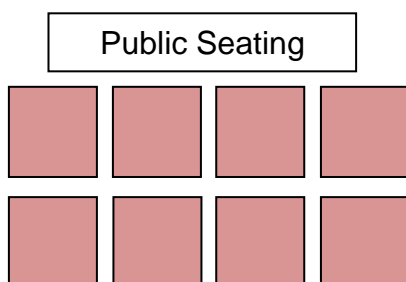
Title:	Children, Young People & Skills Committee
Date:	13 November 2017
Time:	4.00pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, Hove, BN3 4AH
Members:	Councillors: Chapman (Chair), Penn (Deputy Chair), Brown (Opposition Spokesperson), Hamilton, Phillips (Group Spokesperson), Knight, O'Quinn, Russell-Moyle, Taylor and Wealls
	Voting Co-opted Members : Ann Holt, Martin Jones, Amanda Mortensen and Marie Ryan
	Non-Voting Co-opted Members: Ben Glazebrook (Youth Works Representative) and Youth Council
Contact:	Lisa Johnson Senior Democratic Services Officer 01273 291228 lisa.johnson@brighton-hove.gov.uk
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Democratic Services: Children, Young People & Skills Committee

AD of Children's Services	ED of Children's Services	Councillor Chapman Chair	Legal Officer	Democratic Services Officer
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Public Speaker/
Officer Speaking



AGENDA

31 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

(a) Declaration of Substitutes: Where Councillors are unable to attend a meeting, a substitute Member from the same Political Group may attend, speak and vote in their place for that meeting.

(b) Declarations of Interest:

- (a) Disclosable pecuniary interests;
- (b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;
- (c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare

- (i) the item on the agenda the interest relates to;
- (ii) the nature of the interest; and
- (iii) whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest or some other interest.

If unsure, Members should seek advice from the committee lawyer or administrator preferably before the meeting.

(c) Exclusion of Press and Public: To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

NOTE: *Any item appearing in Part Two of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the public.*

A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.

32 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

33 MINUTES

1 - 12

1. To consider the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2017 (copy attached).
2. To note the addendum to the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2017 (copy attached).

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & SKILLS COMMITTEE

34 CALL OVER

- (a) Items (x – x) will be read out at the meeting and Members invited to reserve the items for consideration.
- (b) Those items not reserved will be taken as having been received and the reports' recommendations agreed.

35 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

13 - 16

To consider the following matters raised by members of the public:

- (a) **Petitions:** to receive any petitions presented to the full council or at the meeting itself;
- (b) **Written Questions:** to receive any questions submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 6 November 2017;
- (c) **Deputations:** to receive any deputations submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 6 November 2017.

36 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

To consider the following matters raised by Councillors:

- (a) **Petitions:** to receive any petitions submitted to the full Council or at the meeting itself;
- (b) **Written Questions:** to consider any written questions;
- (c) **Letters:** to consider any letters;
- (d) **Notices of Motion:** to consider any Notices of Motion referred from Council or submitted directly to the Committee.

37 SCHOOL OFSTED PRESENTATION

17 - 18

Update on Ofsted Inspections held since the last meeting of the Committee.

38 OFSTED - AN UPDATE ON THE 2015 CHILDREN'S SERVICES INSPECTION

19 - 28

Report of the Executive Director for Families, Children & Learning (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Deb Austin
Ward Affected: All Wards

Tel: 01273 291407

39 USE OF HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT FUNDING IN YOUTH SERVICES

29 - 40

Report of the Executive Director for Families, Children & Learning (copy

attached)

Contact Officer: Caroline Parker
Ward Affected: All Wards

Tel: 01273 293587

40 BRIGHTON & HOVE CHILDREN IN CARE - INTERIM REPORT

41 - 52

Report of the Executive Director for Families, Children & Learning (copy attached)

Contact Officers: Mark Storey/Jill Dyson
Ward Affected: All Wards

Tel: 01273 293513

41 ITEMS REFERRED FOR COUNCIL

To consider items to be submitted to the 14 December 2017 Council meeting for information.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 24.3a, the Committee may determine that any item is to be included in its report to Council. In addition, any Group may specify one further item to be included by notifying the Chief Executive no later than 10am on the eighth working day before the Council meeting at which the report is to be made, or if the Committee meeting take place after this deadline, immediately at the conclusion of the Committee meeting

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 12 noon on the fifth working day before the meeting.

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If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the Head of Democratic Services or the designated Democratic Services Officer listed on the agenda.

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Lisa Johnson, (01273 291228, email lisa.johnson@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk.

Date of Publication - Friday, 3 November 2017

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & SKILLS COMMITTEE

4.00pm 18 SEPTEMBER 2017

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL, NORTON ROAD, HOVE, BN3 4AH

MINUTES

Present:

Councillors

Councillor Chapman (Chair), Councillor Penn (Deputy Chair), Brown (Opposition Spokesperson), Phillips (Group Spokesperson), Hamilton, Knight, O'Quinn, Taylor, Wealls and Horan

Co-optees

Mr J Cliff, Ms B Connor, Mr B Glazebrook, Ms L Hurst, Mr M Jones and Ms A Mortensen

PART ONE

19 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

19 (a) Declarations of substitutes

- 19.1 Councillor Horan was present as a substitute for Councillor Russell-Moyle
Ms L Hurst was present as a substitute for Ms A Holt
Ms B Connor was present as a substitute for Ms M Ryan

19 (b) Declarations of Interest

- 19.2 Martin Jones declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 26 as his wife worked at Hillside School.
- 19.3 Amanda Mortensen declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 26 as she was a governor at Downs View Special School.
- 19.4 Ms L Hurst declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 26 as she was a governor at Hillside School.
- 19.5 Councillor O'Quinn declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 26 as she was a governor at the Connected Hub.

19 (c) Exclusion of press and public

- 19.6 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the Act"), the Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the

meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the business to be transacted or the nature of proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100(I) of the Act).

19.7 **RESOLVED-** That the press and public not be excluded

20 MINUTES

- 20.1 Mr M Jones was concerned that not all the points he raised and questions he asked were included in the Minutes. The Chair said that the Minutes were not a verbatim record of all that was said, but were there to formally record the decisions made by the Committee.
- 20.2 Councillor Brown referred to paragraph 9.6 and said 'the day provision' should read 'the *extended day provision*'.
- 20.3 Councillor Knight noted that she had commented on Item 13 but there was no reference to that in the Minutes.
- 20.4 Ms A Mortensen referred to paragraph 9.7, and said that 'Anne Mortensen' should read '*Amanda Mortensen*'.
- 20.5 The Chair noted the comments and indicated that the clerk's notes of the meeting would be reviewed.
- 20.6 **RESOLVED:** That subject to the above amendments, the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2017 be approved and signed as the correct record.

21 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

21.1 The Chair stated:

In the meeting today the committee will receive an update on the summer examination results. These once again demonstrate the excellent work taking place in our schools. Across the different key stages and against most measures Brighton & Hove perform above national averages. We are now at the start of a new academic year and I would like to thank all staff, across our schools and within the Council for the work they have done last year and of course for their continued hard work this year.

At a committee we often receive reports related to the education of our children and young people. However, equality important, and in some ways more important is the work that we do to protect our children and young people and keep them safe. It is a very difficult task and I'm pleased that in the last few years our performance has significantly improved. A major reason for this is the vision and dedication that has been shown by Helen Gulvin, who as Assistant Director has led this area of service since November 2014. Prior to this she worked in an interim capacity from October 2013, initially helping to establish our multi agency safeguarding hub and then as the interim Assistant Director. Helen has now decided to retire and will be leaving at the end of the

month. I would like to personally thank Helen for everything that she has done and wish her the very best for the future

22 CALL OVER

22.1 All items on the agenda were reserved for discussion.

23 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

23 (a) Petitions

23.1 There were none

23 (b) Written Questions

23.2 Mr Boyle asked the following question:

Under the proposed changes to the catchment areas, children in the area north of Elm Grove with no sibling link will be offered the choice of Longhill and the new school. Can the council confirm that the new school will actually be an available option for those children in 2019?

23.3 The Chair gave the following response:

Thank you for your question.

On the 29 June the Council released a joint statement with the University of Brighton Academies Trust confirming that the Brighton General Hospital site is the preferred site for The Brighton and Hove Academy. The council continues to be in dialogue with the Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust about how their plans for the site can include the new secondary school building. The Brighton and Hove Academy is in the pre-opening stage and it is a decision for the Education Skills Funding Agency and not the Council about when their conditions for opening have been satisfied. We continue to make every effort to ensure that we provide whatever assistance is needed to ensure those conditions are met.

23.4 Mr Boyle asked the following supplementary:

Can the Council guarantee that the new secondary school would be included in any admission arrangements for September 2019.

23.5 The Chair gave the following response:

The Council will know in the summer of 2018 whether the new school will be able to open in 2019. The Authority has done all it can to push for the opening of a new secondary school but it has no control over the process. The Council would keep everyone informed of developments.

23 (c) Written Questions

23.6 There were none.

23 (d) Deputations

23.7 There were none.

24 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

24a Petitions

24.1 There were none.

24b Written Questions

24.2 There were none.

24c Letters

24.3 There were none.

24d Notices of Motion

24.4 There were none

25 SCHOOL OFSTED PRESENTATION

25.1 The Head of Education, Standards and Achievements provided an update on schools which had recently been inspected by Ofsted.

25.2 The Head of Education, Standards and Achievements was pleased to advise that Varndean Secondary School had retained its 'Good' rating, and Coombe Road Primary School had moved from 'Requires Improvement' to 'Good'. Elm Grove Primary had recently been inspected but the results were not yet available.

25.3 Councillor Brown congratulated Varndean and Coombe Road on their Ofsted rating, but was disappointed that no secondary school in the city had been assessed as being 'Outstanding'. The Assistant Director, Education & Skills said that Varndean had been given a 'Good' rating with 'Outstanding' features, but under the current assessment framework it was difficult for any school to receive an overall rating of 'Outstanding'. The Assistant Director, Education & Skills said that the Council held workshops, led by Head Teachers from 'Outstanding' schools, to assist all schools to continue to drive through improvements to achieve the highest Ofsted rating.

25.4 Councillor Phillips suggested it would be useful to see the Ofsted report on Varndean to understand why it had been rated 'Good' rather than 'Outstanding'. The Assistant

Director, Education & Skills suggested that that could be provided at one of the workshops.

- 25.5 Councillor Hamilton was pleased to note that the Primary and Secondary Schools and the Pupil Referral Units in the city all exceeded the national average. Councillor O'Quinn said that the Pupil Referral Units had done incredibly well, and it was expected that they would be rated as 'Outstanding' in due course.
- 25.6 **Resolved:** That the report be noted.

26 SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY - REORGANISATION OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND PUPIL REFERRAL UNITS

- 26.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Families, Children & Learning regarding the reorganisation of the Special Schools and Pupil Referral Units in the city. The report was introduced by the Assistant Director, Health, SEN and Disabilities and the SEND Review Project Officer.
- 26.2 Ms A Mortensen referred to the provision of home to school transport and suggested that it be considered by the Committee, as currently there was no requirement for the Council to provide transport for those over 16 years of age. The Assistant Director, Health, SEN and Disabilities advised that the issue was being reviewed and further information would be provided in due course.
- 26.3 Councillor Brown said that the Conservatives supported the changes, but were concerned with the proposal to expand the age range of Homewood College from 11-16 to 5-19, which would have children as young as five on the same site as nineteen year olds, and would therefore abstain from voting on Recommendation 2.3. The Assistant Director, Health, SEN and Disabilities said that whilst having a child as young as five at Homewood College would be exceptional, it would give the Council an option if a placement were needed in the future.
- 26.4 Councillor Phillips noted Ms Mortensen's comments on transport and said that she also had concerns on provision. The Assistant Director, Health, SEN and Disabilities said that the issue would be carefully considered and all options reviewed.
- 26.5 Councillor Phillips asked if children would be expected to move to the school closest to their home address, and was advised that there was no intention to disrupt any pupil.
- 26.6 Councillor Phillips noted that an outside consultant had been employed, and asked what the budget implications of that would be. The Assistant Director, Health, SEN and Disabilities said that the Department for Education would fund the post for one year, so there would be no impact on the Local Authority budget.
- 26.7 Councillor O'Quinn asked about the role of School Governors for the merged PRU and Homewood College. The Assistant Director, Health, SEN and Disabilities said that there would need to be one management committee which would link with the governors at Homewood College to work with the integrated hub, but the governance arrangements were still being considered.

26.8 Councillor Wealls did not feel that all the concerns highlighted in the consultation had been fully addressed in the report, and that members did not have all the information needed to make decisions particularly on the practical side of the reorganisation. The Assistant Director, Health, SEN and Disabilities said the report being considered was in response to the Statutory Notices, and once the agreement to make the changes had been made the practical side could be considered. If members wanted another paper it could be considered by the cross party working group. Councillor Wealls suggested that the Committee could vote on principles, but would not have control on how the actual reorganisation would work. The Executive Director, Children Families & Learning said that the reorganisation had been a long process, and it would soon be in the hands of the Governing Bodies to look more at the practical side of running the schools. The Executive Director suggested that it may be helpful for the Committee if an update report came to the committee in 6-9 months.

26.9 Mr M Jones referred to the Equalities Implications in the report and noted that a commitment had been given to retain the overall number of places, and suggested that there be provision to increase the numbers if required. The Assistant Director, Health, SEN and Disabilities confirmed that there was no intention to cap the number of places.

26.10 RESOLVED: That the Committee –

1. Confirmed the proposals contained in the statutory notices and agreed to:

(a) Expand re-designate and extend the age range up to the age of 19 years of Hillside Community Special School.

(b) Close Downs Park Community Special School

so as to form the integrated hub for severe and complex learning difficulties in the west of the city with effect from September 2018.

2. Confirmed the proposals contained in the statutory notices and agreed to:

(a) Expand and re-designate Downs View Community Special School

(b) Close the Cedar Centre Community Special School

so as to form the integrated hub for severe and complex learning difficulties in the east of the city with effect from September 2018.

3. Confirmed the proposals contained in the statutory notice and agreed to expand and extend the age range of Homewood College from 11-16 and 5-19 with effect from September 2018.

4. Noted the outcome of the recent consultation, and approved the merger of the existing Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) and the Connected Hub, and the arrangements to bring the merged PRU together with Homewood College to form the integrated hub for social, emotional and mental health with effect from September 2018.

27 CHILDREN'S SERVICES PARTNERSHIP FORUM

- 27.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Families, Children & Learning which updated the Committee on the function and work of the Children's Services Partnership Forum. The report was introduced by the Service Manager, Directorate Policy and Business Support.
- 27.2 Councillor Wealls was pleased to note the impact of the Forum, and suggested it would be useful to have sight of the Minutes of the meetings. The Service Manager, Directorate Policy and Business Support, said that a summary would be prepared and circulated to members of the Committee.
- 27.3 Councillor Wealls said that it would be useful to have an update on the Youth Service, and was advised that a report would be provided at the next meeting of the Committee.
- 27.4 Councillor Phillips asked if members could be advised of when meetings were being held. It was agreed that a forward plan of future meetings would be provided.
- 27.5 **RESOLVED:** That the Committee noted and supported the work of the Children Services Partnership Forum.

28 SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2019/20

- 28.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Families, Children & Learning which outlined the proposed changes to the secondary catchment areas and some primary school Published Admission Numbers (PAN), and sought permission to make a temporary light touch change to the secondary school admission arrangements. The report was introduced by the Head of School Organisation.
- 28.2 The Chair thanked officers and members of the Cross Party School Organisation Working Group for their involvement to date in the process. He advised that members had already been contacted by those commenting on the proposed changes to the secondary school catchment areas and primary schools admission numbers, and confirmed that all comments would be included in the consultation.
- 28.3 Councillor Brown said it was unfortunate that the reviews had to be undertaken but understood why it was necessary, and encouraged all parents and carers to attend the public consultation events to give their views.
- 28.4 Councillor Brown was concerned over the proposal to reduce the PAN for Benfield Primary School, which was a Teaching School, had been rated 'Good' by Ofsted and had an increasing number of first preference applications to the school.
- 28.5 Councillor Phillips said parents were paying the price for a lack of leadership and any changes to the catchment areas would be upsetting for parents and therefore the Green

Group would be abstaining from voting on Recommendations 2.1 and 2.2. The Chair reminded the Committee that the Council's power over the new school was very limited, and the Authority had done all it could to push for the opening of a new secondary school.

- 28.6 Councillor Hamilton referred to the possible reduction of PAN for Benfield Primary School, and said that other primary schools in Portslade were already operating a one form entry and so to reduce the PAN in those schools would result in them closing. He noted that Benfield currently only had 27 children in two Reception Classes and so, with regret, he felt it would be the correct decision to reduce the PAN for Benfield Primary School.
- 28.7 Ms A Mortensen asked whether officers had considered reducing the PAN of other schools across the city such as Westdene Primary. The Head of School Organisation said they had looked across the city, and would provide information at the public meetings.
- 28.8 Councillor Penn said she understood parent's frustration with places in secondary schools, and she hoped that the Department for Education and the University of Brighton Academy Trust would work together to ensure the new secondary school did open in 2019.
- 28.9 Councillor Taylor asked for reassurance that if there were changes to catchment areas that the sibling connection would remain. The Head of School Organisation said that a sibling connection would remain.
- 28.10 Mr Jones noted that if PAN were reduced at schools it would impact on their finances. The Head of School Organisation agreed and said that officers had looked at the practicalities of any reduction, but said that population numbers were constantly changing and the Council wanted to avoid closing any schools and thereby removing any future provision of places.
- 28.11 **RESOLVED:** That the Committee –
1. Agreed to consult upon the light touch temporary review of the secondary school catchment areas to take effect from 2019.
 2. Agreed to recommend to Full Council that any change to secondary school catchment areas remain in effect for two years and that there should be a further review in 2019 to look at admission arrangements from 2012 onwards.
 3. Agreed to the proposed schedule of public consultation events as detailed in the report.
 4. Noted the forecast of pupil numbers in each catchment area as noted in the report.
 5. Agreed to consult upon the proposed revised primary school Published Admission Numbers (PAN) to take effect from September 2019.

29 EARLY HEADLINE: STANDARDS AND ACHIEVEMENT BRIGHTON AND HOVE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES 2016-17

- 29.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Families, Children & Learning which outlined the early headline results of the national tests in summer 2017. The report was introduced by Head of Education Standards and Achievements
- 29.2 Councillor Phillips referred to paragraph 3.6.3 which stated that 67% of pupils had achieved Grade 4 in English and Maths, and asked if that was a combined percentage. The Head of Education Standards and Achievements said it was.
- 29.3 Councillor Phillips referred to paragraph 3.7.1, and asked why there was a 42% drop in AS Level entries. The Head of Education Standards and Achievements said that was a result of AS Levels being phased out.
- 29.4 Councillor Brown congratulated the schools on their results, and commended the Standards and Achievements for their work in supporting the schools. Councillor Brown noted the reduction in levels for Year 1 phonics, and said that the Authority used to have an emphasis on supporting younger pupils and asked if that could be a priority again. The Executive Director, Families, Children and Learning said that it was a priority but previously it was high for younger pupils and worse for older pupils.
- 29.5 Councillor Penn asked how many children had started an A Level course but did not take the final exam, as she understood that some schools encouraged pupils to drop subjects if they didn't achieve a high enough result in their mock exams. The Head of Education Standards and Achievements said he did not have those figures.
- 29.6 Mr M Jones noted that this was an interim report, and asked if the final report could show the statistics between pupils within the city, not just against national statistics. The Head of Education Standards and Achievements said the report last year reflected the statistics which Ofsted would consider.
- 29.7 Councillor Taylor was pleased with how well the schools had coped with the changes to the GCSE exams, and agreed that it would be useful for the Committee to have information on results for different cohorts.
- 29.8 Councillor O'Quinn felt that AS Levels were stressful for both pupils and teachers and was pleased that they were being phased out, and said that she was delighted that students had done so well in their exams this year.
- 29.9 **RESOLVED:** That the Committee noted the report.

30 ITEMS REFERRED FOR COUNCIL

- 30.1 No items were referred to Full Council for information.

The meeting concluded at 6.30pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

Addendum to the Minutes of the CYPS Committee held on 19 June 2017

Mr M Jones has requested that the following wording be added to the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2017:

1. Paragraph 8.1 *"Martin Jones asked whether, with the past Ofsted reports for Cardinal Newman and now one of our most inclusive schools Blatchington Mill (that had done such brilliant work but still was highlighted as needing to improve work around SEND), it was clear that it was shown that for a school to achieve outstanding they must be outstanding for SEND pupils."*
2. Paragraph 9.7 *"Martin Jones thanked officer for their work and engagement with parents. He asked whether there was further work and engagement being undertaken to ensure that parents with students with the more able ASC felt more confident in the proposed provision. He also questioned whether the small number mentioned in the report would increase if pupils that are currently forced into home education and those who were on part time timetables in mainstream, due to access problems, were included. He additionally highlighted that there are further pressures with successfully inclusive mainstream schools being financially penalised by having to provide the first £6000 for each pupil while schools that took in less than expected were £6000 better off. With schools in financial hardship unable to continue with this disparity it might increase the number of parents that decide that mainstream is not suitable. With a group of parents considering setting up their own School for ASC students because they are concerned that the City's planned provision will not meet needs and desired outcomes how will this effect plans and further engagement at the Hubs?"*
3. Paragraph 14.4 *"Martin Jones noted that much of the data for Black pupils was set against national and that the situation was worse if you looked at the local disparity or "GAP" between Non Disadvantaged and BME groups. BME and all minorities outcomes should be well above National as Non Disadvantaged pupils in Brighton and Hove have achieved this."*

Subject: Petitions
Date of Meeting: 13 November 2017
Report of: Monitoring Officer
Contact Officer: Name: Lisa Johnson Tel: 29-1228
E-mail: lisa.johnson@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: Various

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To receive any petitions submitted directly to Democratic Services or any e-Petition submitted via the council's website.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.2 That the Committee responds to the petition either by noting it or writing to the petition organiser setting out the Council's views, or where it is considered more appropriate, calls for an officer report on the matter which may give consideration to a range of options, including the following:

- taking the action requested in the petition
- considering the petition at a council meeting
- holding an inquiry into the matter
- undertaking research into the matter
- holding a public meeting
- holding a consultation
- holding a meeting with petitioners
- referring the petition for consideration by the council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- calling a referendum

3. PETITIONS

3. (i) Benfield Primary School Consultation – Ms J Keilthy

To receive the following petition.

“We the undersigned petition Brighton & Hove Council to abandon its proposals to halve the admission numbers for Benfield Primary School.

We would like to take a moment to express the impact the proposed changes would have on our School and the wider community. We have

the best team of teachers who provide an excellent education for all our children.

As a team, the school has turned itself around and what it has achieved in the last few years is nothing short of amazing, we lead with the best. The school keeps within its budget and all the staff and parents are against these proposals and we stand as a community to fight them.

We request that a full equalities impact assessment be carried out before any more time is spent considering a reduction to Benfield School.

We are concerned that other options for reducing PAN have not been considered, for example reducing one of the other local three form entry school's to two forms.

Benfield balances its budget and is not 'in the red', it has forecast itself to remain that way for the next few years. This means its staff can concentrate on providing high quality education.

Benfield is a school in the top 25% of the country for pupils progress, a TRUE measure of a school's success. Reducing the number admitted to Benfield would prevent children from accessing this great education.

It has recently become a national teaching school. The council congratulated the school on this stating "excellent news for the school and recognition of the huge improvements that have taken place at the school in recent years, it is also good news for the city...".

The teaching school status was awarded based on a 2 form entry school, delivering high quality teacher training would be very challenging if not impossible, if it were a one form entry school.

The council should be supporting the school with this prized status NOT MAKING IT HARDER FOR THEM.

Staff jobs would be lost. The whole team at Benfield have worked really hard to turn the school around rapidly and they are incredibly dedicated to the children and the school community. It would have a massive impact on the school if staff were lost, they make the school what it is."

Ofsted update 1 November 2017

Schools inspected since last committee 2017

School	Date of Inspection	OE Grade	Previous grade
Full inspections			
Elm Grove Primary School	12.09.17	2	2
St Martin's CE Primary School	19.09.17	2	2
Homewood College	31.10 & 1.11.17	(not confirmed)	2
St Paul's CE Primary School	1.11.17	(not confirmed)	2
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	2.11.17	(not confirmed)	2

Snapshot from 1 November 2017

	% of schools judged to be Good & Outstanding	National % schools judged to be Good & Outstanding	% Pupils in a Good or Outstanding School	% of schools judged to be Outstanding	National % Schools judged to be Outstanding
Primary	96.2	90.7	97.5	15.4	18.2
Secondary	80	79	73.3	0	21.5
Special	100	94.1	100	33.3	36.9
Colleges	100			-	
PRUs	100	88.1	100	0	16
All Schools (not colleges)	94.4	89.4	88.5	16.7	20.3

* National results are as at the end of September

Subject:	Ofsted – an update on the 2015 children’s services inspection		
Date of Meeting:	13th November 2017		
Report of:	Pinaki Ghoshal – Executive Director Families, Children & Learning		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Carolyn Bristow Deb Austin	Tel: 01273 293736 01273 291407
	Email:	Carolyn.bristow@brighton-hove.gov.uk Deb.Austin@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 To provide the committee with an update on progress made since the 2015 Children’s Services Ofsted inspection, providing assurance around action planning to ensure identified recommendations are followed up.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 That committee note the progress made around recommendations arising from the Ofsted inspection in 2015, and agree that future updates should focus on the new inspection framework referred to in the body of the report.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 In November 2013 Ofsted introduced a single inspection framework which focusses on the “experiences and progress of children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers”. It looks at the effectiveness of local authority services and arrangements to help these children, including local authority adoption and fostering services. A review of Local Children’s Safeguarding Boards was introduced alongside this new inspection framework. This inspection framework is now nearly completed, with only a small number of Local Authorities left. The focus is now on preparing for the next framework, the Inspection of Local Authority Children’s Service’s (ILACs). The new framework will have some changes, introducing a self-evaluation element and more of a focus on practice observation but it is likely to retain the 4 point judgement scale as currently (inadequate, requires improvement, good, outstanding).
- 3.2 Brighton & Hove City Council staff formed a working group back in 2013 which looked at the new framework and managed a programme of work to improve services in light of the new requirements. This group also took a wider look at how social work services were being delivered in the city and recognised that changes needed to be made. This work started the process of introducing a new model of relationship based practice, with a structure that removed transition

points between teams and ensured the right child, in the right place, at the right time.

3.3 Brighton & Hove were notified on 13th April 2015 that the inspection team would arrive the next day. The inspection ran from 14th April to 7th May with initial feedback being given on 8th May. During the inspection Ofsted looked at around 200 cases, met with 18 parents and grandparents, 16 adopters and carers and 48 children & young people. They also met with many professionals across the city in a series of meetings.

3.4 The inspection report was published on 22 June 2015 and confirmed the overall judgement as:

Children's services in Brighton and Hove require improvement to be good

There are no widespread or serious failures that create or leave children being harmed or at risk of harm. However, the authority is not yet delivering good protection and help for children, young people and families.

Sub judgements were:

- The Local Safeguarding Children Board is good. The arrangements in place to evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and board partners to safeguard and promote the welfare of children are good.
- Leadership, Management and Governance Good
- The experiences and progress of children looked after and achieving permanence are Good
- Adoption Performance Good Experiences and progress of care leavers Good
- The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection Requires Improvement

3.5 The local authority considered the report to be fair at the time and accepted the findings and recommendations. Ofsted recognised that the authority had already identified all the areas that needed improvement and work had already been underway to change elements of service delivery.

3.6 In the two years following the inspection there has been a focussed attention on tackling the areas identified. Progress is regularly monitored.

3.7 Appendix 1 shows a recent assessment against the Ofsted recommendations.

3.8 There were eleven recommended areas of actions, nine of which have been brought in to acceptable performance levels. The remaining two areas have seen a significant level of improvement but we are committed to achieving a higher performance before taking them off our work plans.

3.9 In September 2016 we asked the Local Government Association to coordinate a Safeguarding Peer Review of our services in Brighton & Hove. They coordinated a team of 8 colleagues from other local authorities who were invited in for 5 days as critical friends to assess our progress against the matters raised by Ofsted.

- 3.10 This was a positive experience and the team confirmed that we continued to 'know ourselves' well, providing accurate self-evaluations of our current performance. Like Ofsted the year before, they agreed that our business plans had identified the correct areas of improvement work that was needed.
- 3.11 We had only very recently introduced our relationship based model of practice, but the peer review team recognised that social workers were already better supported with more opportunities to reflect on their practice, and they could see this would impact positively on the families we work with.
- 3.12 In early 2017 an evaluation of the new relationship based model of practice was conducted, involving the Centre for Social Work Practice and the University of Sussex's Centre for Social Work Innovation and Research, amongst others.
- 3.13 The evaluation found that:
- Families have a better experience of social work
 - Social workers feel more supported and more able to make a difference for families
 - Relationship-based practice seems to be supporting safe and stable family lives for children
 - The model of practice appears to have decreased demand for social work (a 5.4% decrease in the number of open families) and high-level interventions (a 10% decrease in both children with child protection plans and in care) during a time of increasing national demand.
- 3.14 The evaluation drew strongly on direct feedback from young people themselves plus their family members. This feedback is a key way in which we manage our service improvement work.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 These statutory inspections are conducted under section 136 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.
- 4.2 Ofsted only required us to produce an action plan back in 2015 (agreed by this committee in July 2015) however we feel it is appropriate to continue to monitor our progress, thus maintaining the document provided at appendix 1. When Ofsted inspect our children's services arrangements again they would expect us to be able to demonstrate our progress since the previous inspection.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The voice of children, young people and their families is an essential part of our service delivery and work has progressed in the past few years to ensure this is consistent and genuine. The inspection report is very positive about the engagement with children and young people, in particular children in care and care leavers and we continue to build on this work.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Ofsted were satisfied in 2015 that Brighton & Hove provided a safe service for children in the city. However, Ofsted and the Local Authority identified that there

was work to be done to ensure that we are delivering consistently good and outstanding services for all. An improvement journey had begun before Ofsted's arrival and continues with reassurance that the right direction is being taken. If the improvements already undertaken continue then the quality of service and a future Ofsted inspection judgement should recognise that good services are delivered across all areas.

- 6.2 It is unlikely that this area of work within Children's Services will be inspected under the new incoming framework before later in 2018 as the city is considered to be a low risk Authority given that the judgement has not been Inadequate and also given that leadership, management and governance has been judged to be Good.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The actions contained within Appendix 1 have been incorporated into service plans for 2017/18 and any costs will be met from the Families, Children & Learning budgets. These budgets are currently under significant pressure with an overspend projected in 2017/18.

Finance Officer Consulted: Louise Hoten

Date: 29/09/2017

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 As described in the body of the report the Ofsted inspection regime is designed to look at the effectiveness of local authority services and arrangements to help and progress children in need of help and protection, looked after children, and care leavers. These are core statutory duties for the local authority, and a key area of responsibility for all councils. The council is the corporate parent for children removed from their parents care. The council should be assured that it is fulfilling the expectations of the Working Together statutory guidance (2015). Together with the Leader and Chief Executive, the Lead Member for Children Services and the DCS are considered to be politically and professionally accountable for performance and the effectiveness of children's services, per the responsibilities set out in statutory guidance

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson

Date: 05/10/2017

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 Ofsted's inspection framework ensures that the safeguarding and voice of our most vulnerable children & young people is heard. Work with the Corporate Parenting Board, our Children in Care Council and direct work with those subject to a child protection plans was particularly highlighted by Ofsted. Inspectors recognised that staff had been trained and encouraged to consider equalities issues in a child's life and to understand how this may impact on their wider experiences. This was seen as a strength and improvement since the previous inspection in 2011.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 In 2015 Ofsted recognised that the changes we were making were looking to create robust services that support families better. We have recently conducted a thorough evaluation of the new practice and this highlighted positive feedback from children & families. We are also in the process of refreshing our Early Help Strategy in light of the formation of the Front Door for Families and are looking at how we better support families earlier in the process.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. September 2017 Ofsted action plan update

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

1. [Brighton & Hove's 2015 Ofsted inspection report.](#)

Brighton & Hove Children's Social Work: SIF April/May 2015

Ofsted Action Plan: Updated September 2017

RAG RATING:

RED	Action not yet started/significant delay in implementation/delay due to resource availability. The action must be prioritised to bring it back on track to deliver improvement.
AMBER	Action started but there is some delay in implementation. The action must be monitored to ensure the required improvement is delivered.
GREEN	Action completed and there is evidence that the improvement required has been made.

Brighton & Hove Children's Social Work: SIF April/May 2015

Ofsted Action Plan: Updated September 2017

Recommendation	Progress Update: <i>What have we done? / What Needs to happen to improve our Rag Rating?</i>	Rag Sept 2017
1. Ensure that when children cease to be the subject of a child protection plan, their families are given the priority and support they need to maintain the changes they have made.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In October 2015 Brighton & Hove implemented a new model of social work practice which involved a move to small social work teams, or pods which support children from the assessment stage through the whole of their journey across social work services. ▪ We will continue to review cases which have been stepped down from Child Protection to Child in Need to check that the arrangements are appropriate and that there is robust monitoring in place. ▪ In Quarter 1 2017-18, the percentage of Child in Need cases audited by the Safeguarding and Performance Team which are judged overall to be 'Good' is 70%. 	Green
2. Ensure that where a child requires a child in need assessment they are seen and spoken to promptly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 669 assessments were completed between 1st July and 30th September 2017. Of those, 470 (70.3%) had at least one visit recorded within the assessment. ▪ Action Taken: Managers will only authorise an assessment if the child has been seen. 	Amber
3. Ensure that managers monitor and track the timely completion of assessments so that needs and risks are identified promptly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 96% of assessments completed in March 2017 were completed within 45 working days. The percentage for the year ending March 2017 is 70%. ▪ In Quarter 4 2016-17 an audit of cases open to social work found that 81% of assessments were judged to be good or better. 	Green
4. Improve the timeliness of initial child protection conferences so that multi agency plans to meet children's identified needs and reduce risks, can be put in place at the earliest opportunity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A new process has been introduced whereby any delay to initial child protection conferences must be approved by the Head of Service with responsibility for Child Protection. This has resulted in a significant improvement in performance. ▪ 88% of Initial Child Protection Conferences were held within 15 working days of a strategy discussion in Quarter 1 17-18 and 89% of Conferences held within timescales in Quarter 2 17-18. This is above the national average of 76%. 	Green
5. Improve the quality of management direction and oversight of cases to reduce the drift in plans experienced by some children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An audit of social work cases in Quarter 4: 2016-17 found management oversight to be good or better in 90.5% of cases audited compared to 60% in the same quarter 2015-16. ▪ Of the 1,620 cases open for more than 3 months or more, 90% were supervised in the last 3 months. 	Green

Brighton & Hove Children's Social Work: SIF April/May 2015

Ofsted Action Plan: Updated September 2017

Recommendation	<i>Progress Update:</i> <i>What have we done? / What Needs to happen to improve our Rag Rating?</i>	<i>Rag</i> <i>Sept</i> <i>2017</i>
6. When children go missing from home, ensure that they are offered a visit on their return to assess risks they may have been exposed to and to inform plans for them. Centrally analyse the records of these visits to help reduce risks to other children and young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We have commissioned the charity 'Missing People' to provide a Return Home Interview Service and support to children and young people who go missing. ▪ In Quarter 4 2016-17, 88.2% of the children who went missing in the quarter had a return interview recorded in the same period which is a slight reduction from last quarter's 91.7%. ▪ For every return home interview completed, 'Missing People' record the risks to the child and this is linked to Sussex Police information systems. 	Green
7. With partners, review the pathways for early help to reduce the high numbers of inappropriate referrals that are made to the MASH.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is now a single point of contact for services called 'Front Door for Families' and an online referral form has been introduced to simplify the referral process. The service provides support, guidance and access to specialist targeted services for parents, carers, members of the public, young people and professionals. ▪ Partners attending the LSCB Board Meeting have given positive feedback about the combined approach. 	Green
8. Ensure that frontline managers provide rigorous, reflective and risk-focused supervision to social workers. Establish a supervision audit cycle to oversee frequency and quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The importance of reflective practice and good quality supervision is promoted throughout the organisation, for e.g. group supervision takes place to oversee cases each week. ▪ An audit of social work cases in Quarter 4: 2016-17 found that the quality of supervision is good or better in 89% of cases audited compared to 42% in the same quarter 2015-16. ▪ Of the 1,620 cases open for more than 3 months or more, 90% were supervised in the last 3 months. 	Green
9. Recruit and retain sufficient numbers of foster carers to meet the needs of young people with complex needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A project board was established to improve the recruitment and retention of foster carers and it is on track to achieve 62% of children in care placed with in-house foster carers by March 2018. ▪ Action: Going forward, a priority for the board is to establish a number of foster placements which will meet the complex needs of young people who have previously lived in residential care. 	Amber

Brighton & Hove Children's Social Work: SIF April/May 2015

Ofsted Action Plan: Updated September 2017

Recommendation	Progress Update: <i>What have we done? / What Needs to happen to improve our Rag Rating?</i>	Rag Sept 2017
<p>10. Ensure that permanence planning is undertaken promptly and that a tracking system is implemented to monitor this.</p> <p>Note: Permanence is the long term plan for the child's upbringing and provides an underpinning framework for all social work with children and their families from family support through to adoption.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A tracking system has been implemented to monitor permanence planning and a Care Planning Tracking Forum has been established. This is overseen by a Head of Service. ▪ Every six months a review is undertaken to draw out themes from cases which are characterised by delay – the themes are presented to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) /Extended Management Team (EMT) so that appropriate learning and improvement can be taken. ▪ The Care Planning Tracking Forum will also regularly scrutinise all parent and baby placements to ensure that the most vulnerable babies have timely and effective planning in place. 	Green
<p>11. Increase the availability of supported accommodation for care leavers so that young people are promptly allocated supported accommodation that meets their needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In Brighton & Hove there were 161 Care Leavers aged 19, 20 and 21 who were looked after for a total of at least 13 weeks after their 14th birthday including some time after their 16th birthday. Of these, 96% are deemed to be in suitable accommodation, above the national average of 83%, statistical neighbour average of 82.1% and South East average of 77%. Brighton & Hove is ranked 6th highest nationally out of 152 LAs. 	Green

Performance & Safeguarding Team
September 2017

Subject:	Youth Service Update and Use of Housing Revenue Account Funding		
Date of Meeting:	13 November 2017		
Report of:	Executive Director of Families, Children and Learning		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Caroline Parker	Tel: 01273 293587
	Email:	caroline.parker@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on changes to youth services including the use of the Housing Revenue Account's (HRA) annual £250,000 contribution to the budget. The report explains how the money is being spent, projected outcomes for Council tenants and their families and how performance will be monitored. This report will also be considered by the Housing and New Homes Committee on 15 November.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That a progress report is considered by the Committee in November 2018.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Council Budget for 2017/18 included a proposal for savings to the Youth Service budget because of reductions in the revenue support grant from central Government. The Youth budget funded both in-house youth services and services commissioned from external organisations. At the budget Council meeting for 2017/18 it was agreed that the Housing Revenue Account would contribute £250,000 to the Youth Services budget to help maintain services for young people. In addition £100,000 temporary funding was agreed for 2017/18 to allow time for in-house services to be restructured and the re-commissioning of external services.

Youth Participation Team

- 3.2 The Council run youth service has been restructured to achieve budget savings. The Council's Youth Participation Team are continuing to deliver citywide youth participation and advocacy which will support engagement with young people but will also be targeted at more vulnerable groups of young people. In the future detached youth work will be delivered by the Youth Grants Programme.

- 3.3 The Youth Participation Team are developing a model of Youth Voice for young people across the city which enables them to present their views to key decision makers to influence change on a local and national level. This will be made up of a partnership of young people from across the city including the Youth Council, voluntary sector youth providers, and Children in Care Council. The first meeting of young people was held in the October half-term and considered how young people could engage with a Youth Cross Party Working Group. A summary of the points discussed at the meeting is at Appendix 1. An initial meeting of the Cross Party Working Group was held in early September. The aim of the group is to explore longer term arrangements for youth provision across the city and develop a governance model that incorporates the voice of young people. Young people will also be involved in developing a Youth portal to be delivered in partnership with the voluntary sector providers.
- 3.4 The Team also supports the Young Ambassadors programme which recruits and trains young people who are looked after, care leavers and those supported by Social Work, to be used to support recruitment of Families, Children and Learning staff including most recently the new Assistant Director for Social Work. The team are also looking at options to revive the Ask, Report, Change programme (ARC). ARC recruits and trains young people who have experience of living in residential care to visit and peer assess residential placements including private fostering agencies that we commission as a LA. Both young assessors and Young Ambassadors are accredited for their training and involvement in the programmes. The team also aims to tie these groups into additional accreditation opportunities with Youth Arts and Duke of Edinburgh Awards.
- 3.5 A key role of the Participation Team is to deliver the Youth Advocacy Project (YAP) which supports children and young people aged 8 to 21 who are cared for by the authority and care leavers ensuring their rights are respected. Between July to September 88 children and young people were supported. The Independent Visitors service has moved into the team to increase the independence of this service. The Independent Visiting Service recruit, train and support volunteers who provide a valuable befriending opportunity to children and young people who are in the care of the local authority and may have limited positive adult role models.
- 3.6 The Team also supports young people facing multiple barriers to education to gain formal accreditation outside school through the Youth Arts and Duke of Edinburgh awards. This work is being funded by the Sussex Learning Network as part of the National Collaborative Outreach Programme for one year until September 2018. There is potential for the funding to be extended depending on performance and future funding with more information is expected next spring.

Youth Grants Programme

- 3.7 The agreements for services commissioned from the voluntary sector Youth Collective were extended until the end of September 2017 to allow time for recommissioning. The new Youth Grants Programme runs from 1st October 2017 to 31st March 2020 with an annual budget of £400,000.

- 3.8 In order to align the programme more closely to HRA objectives, the service specifications were revised to reflect the geographical location and density of council properties within the city to maximise opportunities and improve outcomes for council tenanted households. The focus of the Youth Service Grant programme is to fund projects that support outcomes identified in the Brighton & Hove Youth Work Review 2015, equality outcomes and housing priorities for safe and inclusive neighbourhoods within our estates; using good practice and innovation to add value and maximise resources.
- 3.9 The expected outcomes for the Youth Grants programme include:
- Increase in young people from the targeted areas participating in community activities and feeling they have a voice/stake in their community
 - Young people from the targeted areas reporting an increase in their self-esteem and confidence
 - Increase in school attendance & decrease in school exclusions
 - Increase in young people in education, employment or training.
 - Decrease in reports of young people's antisocial behaviour in the targeted areas
 - Council house tenants reporting that they are being listened to and anti-social behaviour is being addressed.
- 3.10 The three key priorities for council tenants were identified as:
- Improving the social inclusion of young people in communities with council house tenancies
 - The reduction in anti-social behaviour in communities with council house tenancies
 - Supporting young people in communities with council house tenancies to improve their readiness for employment
- 3.11 The Youth Grants Programme was offered in four lots based on service areas and three equalities lots. A map of the service areas and the wards they cover is at appendix two. Providers were asked to bid as part of a partnership arrangement for the four area based lots of:
- Hangleton, Portslade and West Hove
 - Whitehawk and the Deans
 - Moulsecoomb and Patcham
 - Central Hove and Brighton.
- Providers were asked to bid as either a sole provider or as part of a partnership arrangement for the three equalities lots of:
- Supporting young people who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Unsure of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity (LGBTU)
 - Supporting young people from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities
 - Supporting young people with disabilities
- 3.12 Bids were considered by a panel including members from Families, Children and Learning, Housing and the Communities, Equality and Third Sector Team. Appendix two includes details of the successful providers for each area and the

interventions they will deliver. The providers are required to use a central ICT (Aspire) system to manage their casework and report on outcomes. The Families, Children & Learning directorate's performance team are working with housing to establish clear methods of recording and reporting on housing tenure within current systems (i.e. Aspire and CareFirst). Funding is subject to an annual review, achievement of defined targets and annual council budget setting in February of each year.

- 3.13 A range of other council services also support young people and are funded separately including the Youth Employability Service, Adolescent Social Work Pod (for high risk young people), Extended Adolescent Service (offering out of hours support for young people and their families), Youth Offending Service, RU-OK (the substance misuse service for young people) and Youth Family Coaches in the Integrated Team for Families. It has been agreed that these services will also monitor and report on the work they do to improve outcomes for young people and their families living in council housing.
- 3.14 Quality assurance and performance will be regularly monitored against key performance indicators and will incorporate a range of client/resident feedback mechanisms. Regular service review meetings with providers will be undertaken in conjunction with housing colleagues to ensure that council house tenants benefit from the funding. An annual progress report will be timetabled for the Children, Young People and Skills Committee and the Housing and New Homes Committee prior to budget setting each year. As the Youth Grants Programme will be implemented from 1st October 2017 the first progress report will come to Committee in November 2018.

Youth Bus

- 3.15 The Youth Bus is being retained for the use of both council and commissioned services to support local delivery and will be reviewed in a year's time. Both are keen to use the bus and detailed work is being done on the arrangements for bookings and insurance.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 The alternative option considered as part of the budget process was a greater reduction in funding for youth services which would have led to less commissioned services.
- 4.2 The funding arrangements were changed to a grant process rather than a contract following feedback from the market and a change in commissioning requirements.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 A Youth Work Review was completed in 2015 which included representatives from the voluntary sector and informed the service specification for the Youth Grants Programme. A formal consultation targeted at young people was completed as part of the budget process for 2017/18 with users of the service aged under 24 generating over 1,000 responses to an on-line portal. There was

also face to face involvement facilitated by youth groups including the in-house youth service with more vulnerable young people. The consultation responses strongly supported continued funding for youth services.

- 5.2 The Council's in-house Participation Team will support and expand the Youth Council and Children in Care Council to ensure young people are consulted on the future delivery and development of services. A Cross Party Group on Youth Services has also been established.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The funding from the Housing Revenue Account will ensure that the Council can continue to offer a citywide range of youth services which will benefit council tenants.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The HRA contribution of £250,000 forms part of the total Youth Service budget of £759,000 for 2017-18; of which £359,000 funds the council's in house Youth Participation Team, with the remaining £400,000 funding the externally delivered Youth Services Grant programme. A breakdown of the budget for the in-house team is at Appendix 3. One off funding of £100,000 was allocated for 2017/18 to fund the extension of the Youth Collective projects until the end of September 2017 and to allow time for restructure of council run services.

Finance Officer Consulted: Name Steve Williams Date: 28/09/2017

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 Section 507b of the Education Act 1996 places a specific duty on the Council to secure 'as far as reasonably practicable' sufficient educational and recreational activities for the improvement of young people's well-being, and sufficient facilities for such activities. Young people are defined as those aged 13-19, and those with learning difficulties to age 24.
- 7.3 Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on Services and Activities to Improve Young People's Well-being issued in 2012 clarifies that it is not prescribed which services and activities for young people local authorities should fund or deliver or to what level. Local authorities are responsible for securing, so far as is reasonably practicable, a local offer that is sufficient to meet local needs and improve young people's well-being and personal and social development. They should strive to secure the best possible local offer within available resources. Under the guidance it is for local authorities to determine the mix of open access, targeted, preventative and specialist provision needed to meet local needs and how to integrate all services around young people and decide what facilities are needed and how to make these available and accessible, wherever possible maximising the utilisation and potential of all local partners' assets.

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson Date: 05/10/17

Equalities Implications:

- 7.4 A budget EIA was completed as part of the budget process for 2017/18. A full EIA will be completed once the new services are underway and monitoring information is available.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.5 The Youth Grants Programme has been designed to reflect the geographical location and density of council properties within the city to reduce the need for travel and maximise the sense of community for council tenanted households.

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.6 One of the intended outcomes of the Youth Grants programme is to decrease young people's antisocial behaviour in the targeted areas. Both the Council and commissioned services aim to increase the engagement of young people and help ensure young people feel they have a voice in their community.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Notes from the meeting with young people on 25th October 2017
2. Youth Grants Programme Service Areas
3. Youth Grants Programme 2017 – 2020
4. Youth Participation Team Budget

Documents in Members' Rooms: None

Background Documents: None

Appendix 1

Notes from the meeting with young people on 25th October 2017

- There were 10 young people present representing youth council, Hangleton and Knoll project, children in care.

Outcomes:

1) Cross-party working group.

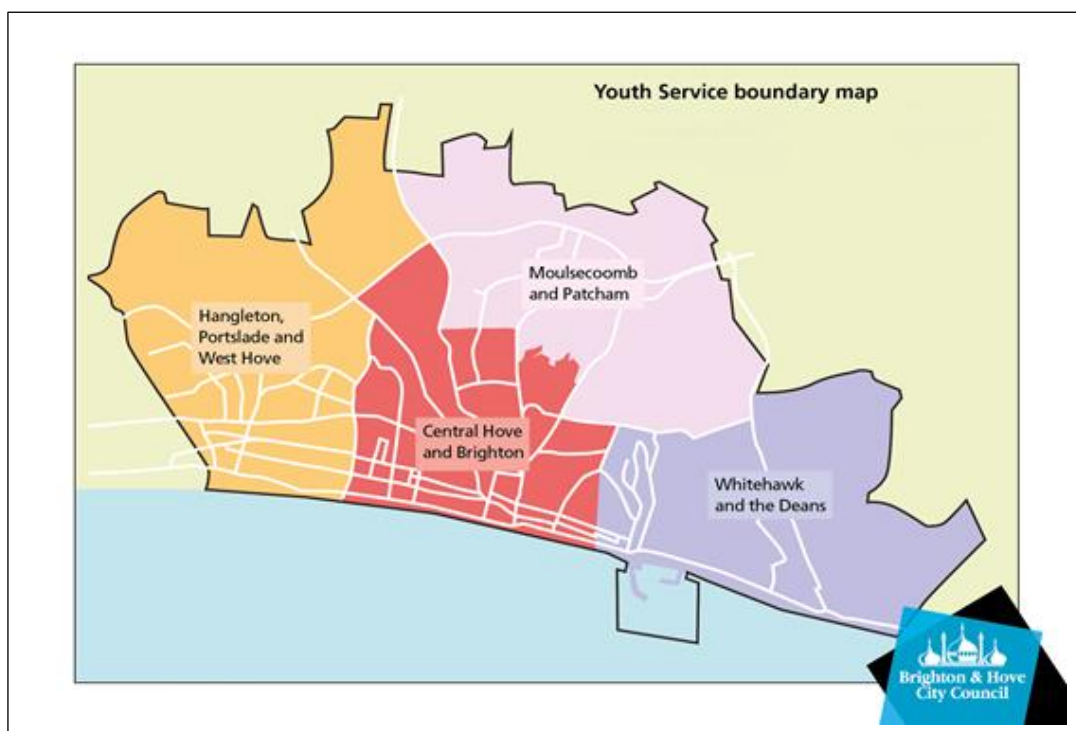
- Meet them where young people feel is best – the library came up as a possible central meeting place as well as ground floor of BTH.
- Possible night was Wednesday 5pm onwards.
- The group want equal or majority representation at these meetings to the adults
- They would like to set the terms of reference together with the adults
- They do not want anyone at the meetings to use technical language or jargon and a way to challenge this needs to be worked out together
- Potentially young people could be supported to chair/lead the meetings

2) Youth voice

- Meet every 6 weeks
- Rotate venues
- Decide on name and slogan - possibilities for names: Young Voices, b.right.on, Bright Youth.
- For slogans: “Your voice matters”, “Young voices, Great Ideas”

- Age group: 13-25 years
- Invite service providers where relevant
- Youth workers to support and encourage attendance
- Utilise social media – use already established FB page (#PYS)
- Young People to visit other clubs/groups to spread the word
- Use the top 10 “Make your mark” campaign issues as a starting point to look at what issues are most relevant to B&H young people.....this could lead to each meeting having a theme

Youth Service Areas



The local wards comprising each of the four geographical areas are:

<p>Hangleton, Portslade & West Hove:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Hangleton and Knoll ◦ Hove Park ◦ North Portslade ◦ South Portslade ◦ Westbourne ◦ Wish 	<p>Moulsecoomb & Patcham:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Hollingdean and Stanmer ◦ Moulsecoomb and Bevendean ◦ Patcham
<p>Central Hove and Brighton:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Brunswick and Adelaide ◦ Central Hove ◦ Goldsmid ◦ Hanover and Elm Grove ◦ Preston Park ◦ Queen's Park ◦ Regency ◦ St. Peter's and North Laine ◦ Withdean 	<p>Whitehawk and the Deans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ East Brighton ◦ Rottingdean Coastal ◦ Woodingdean

Youth Grants Programme 2017 – 2020

Service Area	Providers	Summary of activities, projects and support	Budget 2017/18 (1/2 year)	Budget 2018/19 and 2019/2020
Hangleton, Portslade and West Hove	The Hangleton & Knoll Project (lead) YMCA (partner)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Mediation • Group work activities/programmes / project work • Detached youth work • Open access sessions • Safe spaces • Healthy relationships and lifestyle work • Peer support • Participation • Young Leaders programme • Pathways to education/ accreditation • Volunteering opportunities • Targeted individual work • Mediation and Housing advice • Counselling • Activity based therapies 	£39,500	£79,000
Whitehawk and The Deans	The Trust for Developing Communities (lead) The Deans Youth Project Impact Initiatives (partners)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open-access youth clubs • Detached youth work • New and challenging activities • Sports • User led activities • Work with young people with disabilities • Targeted work • Project work • Drop-ins 	£30,500	£61,000

Service Area	Providers	Summary of activities, projects and support	Budget 2017/18 (1/2 year)	Budget 2018/19 and 2019/2020
Moulsecomb & Patcham	The Trust for Developing Communities (lead) Impact Initiatives, Albion in the Community Extratime, Friends, Families and Travellers, Bevendean Activities Group (partners)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detached youth work • Open-access youth clubs • New and challenging activities • Special needs clubs • High participation activities • Sports • BME work • Individual targeted work 	£44,000	£88,000
Central Hove and Brighton	Brighton Youth Centre (lead) Young Peoples Centre, Turner Project, Youth Advice Centre (partners)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detached youth work • Open-access youth clubs • Participation and project-based work • Special needs support • Sports • Targeted work • Girls group • Young Carers sessions • Weekday drop-in advice service • Activity and youth work session (PRU students) • Adopted Young People's Group • Specialist health work • Casework, inc brief interventions and group work around risk • Arts Workshops and events (gigs) • B.Fest 	£49,500	£99,000

Service Area	Providers	Provision	Budget 2017/18 (1/2 year)	Budget 2018/19 and 2019/2020
Equalities: LGBTU	Allsorts Youth Project Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group work • Individual support • Staff liaison • Joint projects • Training 	£9,500	£19,000
Equalities: BME	Black and Minority Ethnic Young People's Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly drop-in • BME youth engagement • BME Youth Champions • Leadership programme • Holidays and summer activities • Black History Month • Sports development project • BME Communities Collaboration Project • Schools work 	£9,500	£19,000
Equalities: Disabilities	Extratime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts, sports and cultural activities • Participation • Drop-in 	£9,500	£19,000
Aspire		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to the recording system for voluntary sector projects 	£8,000	£16,000
		Total	£200,000	£400,000

Appendix 4

Council Youth Participation Team Budget

	Provisional Full Year Budget
Council Youth Participation Team	
Direct Staff Costs:	
Advocacy	130,900
Participation	119,600
Protected Pay	11,200
	261,700
Other Costs	
Other Staff Costs	2,900
Buildings	5,500
Other Transport Costs	9,400
Independent Visitors for children in care	15,000
Other Supplies & Services	12,200
Children in Care Council activities	10,000
Young Ambassadors activities	10,000
Contribution to Aspire	9,000
Partnership costs	
Youth Bus	3,800
Youth Portal	10,000
Small Grants	10,000
Total	359,500
Independent Visitors	46,400

Subject:	Education of Children in Care Results – Interim Report		
Date of Meeting:	13 November 2017		
Report of:	Executive Director Families Children & Learning		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Mark Storey	Tel: 01273 294271
	Email:	mark.storey@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This paper provides a summary of Brighton and Hove's Children in Care's educational progress and attainment at the end of Key Stage 2, 4 and 5 for the academic year 2016/17.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the contents of the report are noted.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 It is important to note that the way schools and education are judged by Ofsted focuses very much on progress children have made. This, combined with changes to national assessment, means that results have to be viewed differently. It is also important to note that these results are subject to further validation and some re-marks. We also await further information on how to analyse the results from the DfE. A full self-evaluation of the Virtual School will be available at the end of the autumn term 2017.
- 3.2 It is standard DfE practice to report results for children who have been in care for 12 months or more on 31st March 2017. They are often referred to as 'the VS 903 cohort'. However, it is important to realise that the Virtual School also has significant impact with a cohort of children who have come into care after 31st March 2016.

4.0 KEY STAGE 2 (age 11)

- 4.1 The expectation is that children at age 11 achieve age related expectation in Reading, Writing and Mathematics (RWM) – The old Level 4 and above. (*Where results are referred to in the prose as '334' this means they achieved a Level 3 for Reading, Level 3 for Writing and a Level 4 for Maths. These are the old levels that are no longer in use since 2015*)

4.2 To give an idea of how the new testing from 2016 onwards may be affecting overall results, in 2016 the percentage nationally achieving RWM dropped from 80% to 53%. This has seen some increase in 2017, with the national RWM now standing at 61%.

4.3 There were 16 children in the cohort so one child is equivalent to 6.25%

4.4 This table looks at the percentage of the cohort achieving the expected standard in each assessment:

	Reading	Writing	Maths	RW&M	Grammar Punctuation & Spelling
	Test	Teacher Assessment	Test	-	Test
VS 903	50.0%	50.0%	37.5%	37.5%	56.3%
B&H all	76.4%	77.1%	74.5%	63.2%	77.1%
National all 2017	71%	76%	75%	61%	77%
CiC National 2016	41%	46%	41%	25%	44%

National averages for Children in Care not yet available for 2017.

4.5 Teacher assessments at Key Stage 2, % achieving age related expectations:

KS2 TA	Reading	Writing	Maths	Science
VS 903	50.0%	50.0%	43.8%	50.0%

4.6 Comment

- Attainment is a lot stronger than in 2016 but, as detailed below, the progress has been very similar.
- There is significant evidence for the vast majority of children that demonstrates that their progress can be considered good.
- Attainment in RWM at Key Stage 2 in 2017 is above the Children in Care national average 2016. The national average for the current year is not yet available.
- Teacher assessments are positive and on the whole, progress of children in their teacher assessments is as predicted.

4.7 Progress

Progress of our children in care, from the starting points when they came into Key stage 1, should be viewed as good.

- Three children had severe learning difficulties. This meant their progress was extremely poor which impacts negatively on the progress figure average.

- Children in Care scored 1.1 marks fewer in their Reading scaled score at Key Stage 2 than children of a comparable standard at Key Stage 2. They scored 1.7 fewer marks in writing on average. However, the margin of error stated by Raise (DfE data system) means that they progressed as well as all children did nationally in reading and writing. It is important to realise that this calculation is including children with moderate and severe learning difficulties at special schools. These scores are similar to progress levels achieved by the Virtual School in 2016, when progress was -1.7 for Reading and -1.5 for Writing.
- The Mathematics score of -4.8 is below the national average progress. This does follow a pattern of poorer attainment and achievement in Maths across Brighton, and is similar to the progress score achieved by the Virtual School in 2016 (-4.6)
- The Virtual School is above national floor targets for all subjects. This should be viewed as a positive - as under previous systems, Virtual Schools could rarely be put above floor targets that were based on attainment. A floor target is a target set by the DfE for all mainstream schools.

4.8 Primary Case Studies

Student A

A is in Y3. He became looked after in Feb 2016 due to mum's mental health issues and domestic violence in the home. A achieved a very low score at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Of the 17 Early Years goals, he only reached age related expectations (ARE) in two areas.

The mother of A and did not contest the case when proceedings were started and did not want contact with him. This made him very vulnerable emotionally and he was often tearful and angry at home and at school.

A was placed with an experienced and nurturing foster carer and attended Primary School where he received a great package of support, including Every Child A Reader (ECaR), Play Therapy and 1:1 tuition with VS tutor, funded by pupil premium as well as Learning Mentor support and he really began to catch up.

A achieved very close to age related expectation at KS1. Missing out by a few marks but this represents a significant catching up since Early Years results.

A is now placed with an adopter and is doing well. He loves his new school and has settled in and made friends quickly. The emotional and learning support he received in Brighton has stood him in good stead and he is now making accelerated progress.

Student B

Student B is now in Y1. He became looked at a similar time to starting reception.

After being removed from parents his behaviour in school was affected, and he was unable to manage his emotions. He was tearful and distracted, and hyper-vigilant. This was affecting his ability to focus and learn.

Pupil premium plus paid for play therapy and counselling. B responded really well to this. He also has a Learning Mentor that was agreed by the Virtual School who acts as key adult. His behaviour has now settled.

B achieved a Good Level of Development at the end of the EYFS.

Student C

Student C is currently in Y7. He has been looked after since July 2009 and has been in a stable long-term placement for the last 6 years.

C was making good progress in reading and writing in Y5 but behind in Maths. A Maths tutor was put in to work 1:1 with C, funded by Pupil Premium Plus, and this had a really significant impact on progress. School described him as “soaring” in Maths following this intervention. C requested the Maths tuition to continue and it has followed him through Y6 and across the transition to her secondary school.

C had some friendship problems in Y5 and identified herself as having anger issues. Art Therapy was commissioned, funded by the Virtual School and C responded very well. He has continued to see the therapist and this has really helped with the transition to secondary school.

C achieved the expected levels in all subjects including the Maths at the end of Y6 and has made a successful transition to Y7 where he continues to make excellent progress. His attendance is 100%.

5.0 Key Stage 4 (age 16)

5.1 At the end of Year 11 children take their GCSE exams. It is standard DfE practice to report results for children who have been in care for 12 months or more on 31st March 2017, a group known as the 903 cohort.

In 2017, the grading system for English, Maths and a few other subjects changed from an alphabetical system (A*-G) to a numerical system (9-1), with 9 being the highest grade and 1 being the lowest grade. This has caused a change in the Attainment 8 scores, meaning that the score for 2017 is not comparable with 2016.

The first table below shows results for 2017, with the results for 2016 below. The column ‘2017 Mainstream’ has been included to illustrate significantly better results in mainstream if we separated them from the disproportionately high numbers amongst this cohort attending special schools, independent specialist providers or other alternative provision, *with 51.6% of the cohort not attending mainstream settings*. This compares to 38.5% of the cohort in 2016:

14 of the children in the cohort attended education outside of Brighton & Hove, with 15 attended settings inside the local authority

<i>KS4 Results for 903 Cohort</i>				
	2017 All 903	2017 Mainstream	B&H 2017	National 2017
Cohort	31	15	2208	-
4 or above in English	19.4%	40.0%	78.0%	69.9% (Lang) 72.5% (Lit)
4 or above in Maths	12.9%	26.7%	72.1%	70.7%
4 or above in Eng & Maths	9.7%	20.0%	67.0%	TBC
Attainment 8	TBC	TBC	4.8	TBC
Progress	All Progress data TBC			

	2016 All 903	2016 Mainstream
Cohort	39	24
A*-C in English	30.8%	50%
A*-C in Maths	15.4%	29.2%
A*-C in Eng & Maths	12.8%	25.0%
Attainment 8	2.0 (F)	3.15 (E)

5.2 Comment

- In 2016/17 19.4% of Brighton & Hove Children in Care (children looked after continuously for 12 months from 1 April 2016) achieved a grade of 4 or above in English, and 12.9% achieved a grade of 4 or above in Mathematics. This attainment is low and significantly below Brighton & Hove averages. However, we currently have no national average for Children in Care to compare with.
- Of the 31 children in the Virtual School 903 cohort, 16 came into Care during Secondary School, of which 9 came into care in Year 9 or later. *This means that 29% of the cohort came into care when they had already begun their studying for GCSEs.* These 9 children did not achieve 4 or above in English or Maths at GCSE.
- Progress scores in English and Maths, as well as Progress 8 scores, are not yet available for the Virtual School and will be calculated in November 2017.

5.3 Secondary Case studies

Case Study 1

A has an EHC Plan for Social Emotional and Mental Health. His Key Stage 2 results were 'Below/Level 3/Below' (B= working below the level of the test) for reading writing and maths.

A struggled emotionally at school with personal issues and at times this was reflected in his behaviour. The Virtual School met regularly with school to ensure that exclusions were kept to a minimum and attendance remained high. School ensured that A had a full timetable, had regular mentoring support and additional 1:1 support where possible. In addition, the Virtual School arranged for him to have after school 1:1 maths tuition.

During Key Stage 4, A achieved an Audio Active Bronze Award, a Music Level 1 BTEC and completed a Level 1 Motor Vehicle day release course at City College. A also undertook regular work experience at a construction company and took the EDLC (European Driving Licence Certificate). A took a number of Functional Skills certificates and achieved Food Tech Entry Level 3, Functional Skills English Level 3, Functional Skills ICT Level 3, Maths Entry Level 3.

A was entered for GCSEs in English, Maths, Science and ICT certificate (worth 2 GCSEs). A engaged with revision at school and out of school and as a result achieved the following grades in his GCSEs: ICT Level 1 Pass, GCSE Maths 2, GCSE English Language 2, Biology F. A met school and Virtual School to discuss Post 16 options. A engaged with this support and has a place at Northbrook College on a Level 1 Games Design Course.

Overall, A has made good progress in Key Stage 4 and has achieved a number of qualifications.

Case Study 2

B's Key Stage 2 results were Level 3/34. Prior to going into care, B had very low attendance and had made no progress. Consequently he had big gaps in his learning. He rarely engaged in school activities and was socially isolated. In Year 9, B went into care and no sooner had this happened, his attendance dramatically improved, as did his attitude to learning and behaviour. He joined the school football club and was offered and attended a school trip abroad, supported by the Virtual School. B was also given an award at the Virtual School Children in Care Award Ceremony which further boosted his self-esteem.

B received 1:1 tuition from the Virtual School and a laptop to support with English and Maths catch up. B was placed in small class groups and exam concessions were applied for. B was allocated a reader, extra time and a scribe for all his exams. The Virtual School and school agreed B would benefit from being monitored by teaching assistants in all lessons which was put in place.

B worked hard towards his GCSEs, attending Easter Holidays revision classes and willingly engaging with the school's Year 11 extended days. He made great progress, improving on his mock exam grades and achieved the following: English Language 3 (being assessed for a re-mark), English Literature 2, Maths 3 (being assessed for a re-mark), Science F, ICT F and Art C

B engaged well with careers support and has a place on a Level 2 Sports Course at Brighton Met College. He was also put forward for the National Citizenship Scheme

which took place in the summer holidays. Overall, B has made great progress not only academically but also socially. His attendance at school in Year 11 was excellent. B is now on the right pathway to a positive future.

Case Study 3

C achieved Level 545 in Key Stage 2. He attended the same Brighton and Hove secondary school for the duration of his secondary school career, was very settled and had excellent behaviour and attitude to learning. The Virtual School supported C with 1:1 Tuition for English throughout Key Stage 4. C engaged in this support and worked hard at school and independently at home. C made excellent progress in his GCSEs and obtained a grade 5 in both English and Maths. He also obtained a further 7 strong GCSE's. C had 98.9% attendance at school. C has recently started A levels at 6th form college.

6.0 Post 16 (KS5) Attainments

- 6.1 The range and complexity of qualifications young people can take at KS5 is far greater than at KS4. Analysis of results is consequently more difficult.
- 6.2 There are **33 care leavers** either beginning their first year or continuing study in their second or third year at University in 2017/8.
- 6.3 There are 42 young people in the Key Stage 5 903 cohort for the academic year 2016/17. Eight of these young people achieved five A*-C including English and Mathematics at GCSE, which equates to 19.0% of the cohort.

The below figures are provisional and have been collected directly from young people, carers or social workers.

- 6.4 Of the cohort of 42:
 - 5 have completed studies at Level 3, with a further 2 continuing a Level 3 course.
 - 15 young people have completed courses to the standard of Level 2.
 - 7 young people have studied a Level 1 course in post 16 education.
 - 1 young person is studying at pre-entry level
- 6.5 Outcomes for the cohort are also monitored. These include:
 - A young person is going to Brighton University to study Nursing
 - A young person is going to Richmond University to study Fashion and Business
 - 5 young people will be studying an apprenticeship.
 - 7 young people will be going to Brighton Met, 2 will be going to Chichester College and 1 to DV8 and Plumpton College

- 5 young people will be in employment
- 10 young people are NEET. A significant number of these young people have either Physical or Mental Health issues. These issues range from attachment problems to drugs issues. Work is being done to make sure this cohort have the best support in order to help them with their individual concerns followed by support to help them into employment, education or training when ready. This support comes from the collaborative work of the Virtual School, the social worker, NHS, Department of Work and Pensions, Probation, Youth Offending Service and other professionals. For one particular young person external funding was successfully acquired to purchase a laptop which assisted creative writing and applying for work as well as easing their mental health through organising and charting thought patterns. Through co-working with the Social Worker the Virtual school build relationships with these young people moving forward with individual plans that include work experience, part time study or employment.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 Results may vary significantly from year to year due to changes in small cohorts. Cohorts from one year to the next can vary immensely and can have a very different composition. This will always make it difficult to compare year on year. The only way to really understand a year group is to review the list of the entire cohort and look at individual achievements and challenges. This is also the only accurate way to understand use of the pupil premium plus and its impact. This is done within the Virtual School steering group
- 7.2 There is evidence to demonstrate that Children in Care are making progress. There are particular highlights: those who are going to University, the progress made by those with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities and the progress that a variety of individuals have made. However, as always, there is still significant work for the Virtual School to do and there is a clear plan moving forward.
- 7.3 The Virtual School have major changes ahead and are appointing a new Lead to accelerate children's progress and close attainment gaps. This is in order to:
1. Fully understand how changes to testing have affected our children in care by completing Deep Dive Reviews.
 2. Use Deep dive reviews to challenge progress, attendance and any exclusions of all children in September, October and November.
 3. Set up school improvement visits with schools with large numbers of CiC to challenge progress of our cohort between October and February.
 4. Complete an equality impact assessment with a focus on Personal Education Plan (PEP) compliance.
 5. Ensure there has been sufficient training for all social workers and foster carers on recent developments in education and current priorities.

6. Further ensure our pupil premium plus spend is based on evidence based interventions and matched to the child's exact needs.
7. Continue and expand the attachment aware Brighton initiative working mainly with schools.
8. Ensure through the PEP system that the child voice is heard and their aspirations are understood.
9. Maths improvement is a thread that will be prioritised in actions 1, 2, 3 and 6. A maths tutor has been recruited to further enhance this

8. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

8.1 Financial Implications:

There are no direct financial implications from the recommendations of this report. The budget for the virtual school in 2017/18 is £0.403m with additional pupil premium available of £0.652m

Finance Officer Consulted: Name David Ellis

Date: 03/10/17

Legal Implications:

- 8.2 The report relates to the educational progress and attainment of children in care, for whom the council has a corporate and statutory responsibility. Statutory guidance makes clear that the council has a shared responsibility to act as effective and caring corporate parents for looked after children, with key roles in improving their educational attainment.

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson Date: 05/10/2017

